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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/749,804	12/31/2003	Yasushi Egi	EHH-137-A	5335

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CARRIER BLACKMAN AND ASSOCIATES
24101 NOVI ROAD
SUITE 100
NOVI, MI 48375

EXAMINER

LUGO, CARLOS

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3676

DATE MAILED: 04/06/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/749,804

Applicant(s)

EGI ET AL.

Examiner

Carlos Lugo

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 31 December 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to applicant's preliminary amendment filed on December 31, 2003.

2. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

Drawings

- Figures 16A and 16B should be label "Prior Art".

Abstract

- The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the abstract exceeds the 150 words limit. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Specification

- Paragraph 24 Line 1, change "and !b" to -and 1B-.
 - Delete Paragraph 44 since it is already disclosed in the brief description of the drawings.
 - Paragraph 54 Line 6, change "second rocking plate 24" to -second rocking plate 21-.
3. Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. **Claims 1-12 are allowed.**

Reasons For Allowance

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 1 is allowable over the prior art of record because the teachings of the references taken as a whole do not teach or render obvious the combination set forth, including that the door lock device comprises first, second and third turning or pivotable members (Claim 1 Lines 19,25 and 34).

The Prior Art presented on Figures 15A-16B presents a door lock device comprising a latch (2), a hook (6), a hook control member (7), an actuator (30 and 36), and members that moves with respect to the actuator in order to lock or retract the hook control member in order to release or restrain the hook with respect to the latch. However, the Prior Art presented in Figures 15A-16B fails to disclose that the lock comprises first, second and third pivoting members that move with respect to the actuator in order to lock or retract the hook control member in order to release or restrain the hook with respect to the latch. The Prior Art presented in Figures 15A-16B discloses that the lock only uses first and a second member (15 and 21 respectively).

Hogan (US 3,774,422) discloses a door lock device comprising a latch (222), a hook (228), a hook control member (238 and 240), an actuator (254 and 256), and first, second and third members (252,266,268 and 260 respectively) that moves with respect to the actuator in order to lock or retract the hook control member in order to release or restrain the hook with respect to the latch.

Hogan fails to disclose that the actuator has a rod capable of being advanced for locking operation and retracted for an unlocking operation. Hogan discloses that the actuator has a rod (256). Hogan discloses that the rod is capable of being advanced for unlocking operation and retracted for locking operation (Col. 3 Lines 25-45) not that is capable of being advanced for locking operation and retracted for an unlocking operation. When the rod 256 is extended, the actuator releases the first member 252 from locking the hook control member 238 and 240 and when the rod 256 is retracted the first member acts on the hook control member so as to lock it.

Although it would be obvious to have a reversal of parts in order to have the rod capable of being advanced for locking operation and retracted for an unlocking operation, Hogan also fails to disclose that the second member (266) turns or rotates. Hogan discloses that upon energization of the actuator (254), the third member (260) is pivoted and its motion is transmitted to the second member (at part 268 of the second member 260) to pull it (Col. 3 Lines 45-50) so as to slide (Figure 3 and Figure 6).

Helmar (US 5,484,180) discloses a door lock device comprising a latch (30); a hook (23); a hook control member (25); an actuator (44) that has a rod (35) capable of being advanced for locking operation (Figure 7) and retracted for an unlocking operation (Figure 5); and first, second and third members (25,38 and 39 respectively) that moves with respect to the actuator in order to lock or retract the hook control member in order to release or restrain the hook with respect to the latch.

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However, Helmar fails to disclose that the first and third members turns or rotates. Helmar discloses that the first and third members (25 and 39) slides with respect to the actuating of motor 44.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Carlos Lugo whose telephone number is 703-305-9747. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-6pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel P. Stodola can be reached on 703-308-2686. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-306-5771.

cl.

Carlos Lugo
AU 3676

March 28, 2005.



DANIEL P. STODOLA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600